

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 4, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

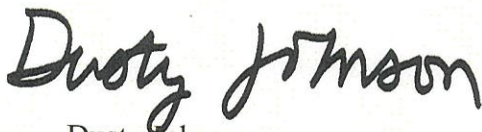
Amid the growing supply chain crisis, drivers in the trucking industry have stepped up to ensure the timely delivery of goods. Yet even with their efforts, there simply aren't enough truckers on the road to meet the demand.<sup>1</sup> Given this, we urge the Department of Transportation (DOT) to proceed with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) Under-21 Commercial Driver Pilot Program.

Currently, only commercial driver's license (CDL) holders over the age of 21 can operate commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) in interstate commerce. However, 49 states and the District of Columbia already allow 18 to 20-year-old CDL holders to operate CMVs in intrastate commerce. Accordingly, Congress supported, and the Trump Administration began, the process to implement the FMCSA's Under-21 Commercial Driver Pilot Program to allow drivers aged 18, 19, and 20 to operate CMVs in interstate commerce. This new pilot program would create a road map to drastically increase the number of truck drivers and alleviate the current crisis. Yet, the DOT has not taken action to move this program forward.<sup>2</sup>

As our supply chain issues continue to grow, we should be doing everything we can to fix the problem. Therefore, we urge implementation of FMCSA's Under-21 Commercial Driver Pilot Program. It's critical that we pursue all avenues to alleviate the supply chain crisis and get goods moving again.

Thank you for your attention to this letter. We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Dusty Johnson  
Member of Congress



Josh Harder  
Member of Congress

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<sup>1</sup> Wanted: 80,000 truck drivers to help fix the supply chain. <https://www.cnn.com/2021/10/19/economy/trucking-short-drivers/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> FMCSA Proposes New Under-21 Commercial Driver Pilot Program. <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/newsroom/fmcsa-proposes-new-under-21-commercial-driver-pilot-program>

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